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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AUG 14 2002

In Re the Application of:

RUECKER et al.

Serial No.: 09/766,500

Filed: January 19, 2001

Atty. File No.: 2997-19

For: "SOLVENTLESS EXTRACTION  
PROCESS"

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Davis, R.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME: KATHLEEN BUSSELL

SIGNATURE: *Kathleen Bussell*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action having a mailing date of May 7, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows. This response is believed to be timely and therefore, no fees are enclosed. However, if fees are due in connection with this response, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 57, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend independent Claim 1 as set forth below, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein. All other pending claims remain unchanged.

1. (Once Amended) A process for obtaining lipid from microorganisms comprising:

- (a) lysing cells of the microorganisms to produce a lysed cell mixture;
- (b) treating said lysed cell mixture using a solventless extraction process to produce a phase separated mixture comprising a heavy layer and a light layer, wherein said heavy layer comprises an aqueous solution and said light layer comprises said lipid;
- (c) separating said heavy layer from said light layer; and
- (d) obtaining said lipid from said light layer.

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